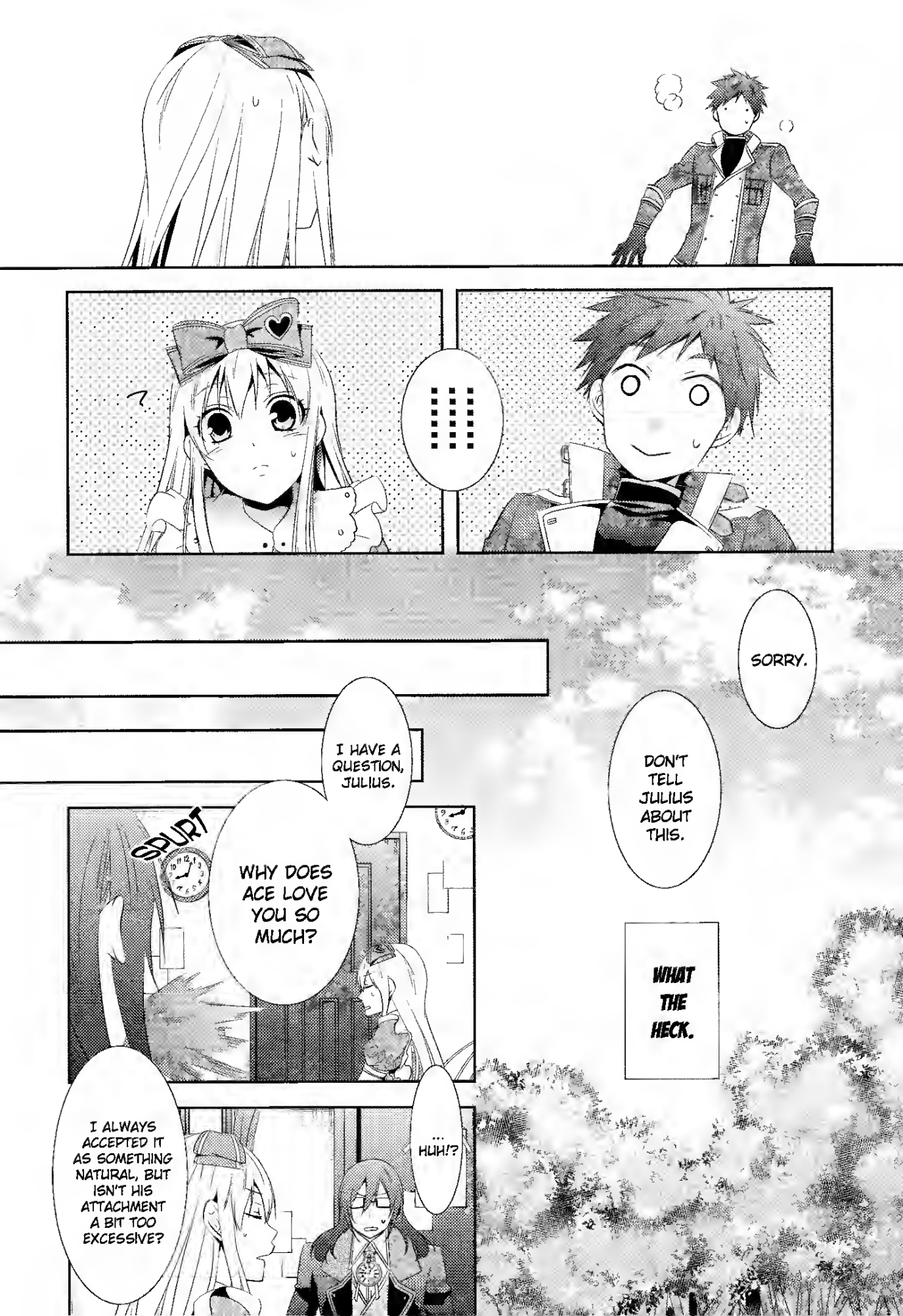
YESSSS!!
Y-
I'LL KEEP YOU GUYS COMPANY ONLY FOR A LITTLE BIT BETWEEN BREAKS, THAT'S ALL!
DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY, YOU HEAR ME?
THIS ISN'T A DREAM, IS IT? TELL ME IT ISN'T!
IT'S REAL! WE HEARD HIM PROMISE LOUD AND CLEAR!
AAAH!! I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
WAH?!
IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU! THANK YOU SO MUCH!
hug

REALLY...
I'M JUST SO HAPPY...
HEY! ACE, WAIT A-
ACE REALLY IS COMPLETELY FIXATED UPON JULIUS.
IT'S ACTUALLY SORT OF REFRESHING HOW HE'S NOT EVEN CONSCIOUS OF ME.
COME ON, ACE, LET GO.
YOU SAID IT YOURSELF BEFORE, DIDN'T YOU?
IF SOMEONE SEES US LIKE THIS IT MIGHT CAUSE A MISUNDERSTANDING.
I MAY NOT TURN ANY HEADS BUT I'M A GIRL NONETHELESS.
"NONETHELESS"? YOU'RE SELLING YOURSELF SHORT AS ALWAYS.
NO MATTER HOW ONE LOOKS AT YOU,
SLIP

CATCH
YOU'RE OBVIOUSLY
ROLL
A GIRL...
SILENCE...
!!!
...ACE?


SORRY.
DON'T TELL JULIUS ABOUT THIS.
WHAT THE HECK.
I HAVE A QUESTION, JULIUS.
SPURT
WHY DOES ACE LOVE YOU SO MUCH?
I ALWAYS ACCEPTED IT AS SOMETHING NATURAL, BUT ISN'T HIS ATTACHMENT A BIT TOO EXCESSIVE?
... HUH!?

JULIUS-
CREAK
NO NO NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I-
OF ALL THE THINGS I WOULD'VE EXPECTED YOU TO ASK...
ARE YOU GETTING JEALOUS THIS LATE?
EEEEH?!
tap tap tap
slam
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU WHEN YOU'RE WORKING.
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
AHAHA, YOU DON'T NEED TO HIDE IT.
YOU GUYS ARE BOTH SHY TYPES ANYWAY, AND I DIDN'T MEAN TO BE THE THIRD WHEEL...
WAIT, WAIT!!
AREN'T YOU MISUNDER-STANDING SOMETHING!?
pant
THANK GOODNESS, I MADE IT.
AND HERE I WAS TRYING TO BE CON-SIDERATE.
TAP
TAP
TAP
pant
pant
WAIT, ACE!
WHY ARE YOU CHASING ME!?

THEN WHY DO YOU CARE ABOUT US SO MUCH?
I JUST TOLD YOU THAT I DON'T LIKE HIM ROMANTICALLY!!
WHAT, OPENLY ANNOUNCING PLANS FOR TWO-TIMING?
YOU'RE GETTING YOUR PRIORITIES WRONG HERE IF YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING ME A FAVOR BY AVOIDING ME.
I LIKE JULIUS, BUT NOT IN A ROMANTIC WAY. ALSO YOU'RE NOT A THIRD WHEEL.
THAT'S BECAUSE ...
AND IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN THAT LONG SINCE WE MET.
STILL YOU STARTED PRYING INTO OUR BUSINESS LIKE THAT.
I THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE.
YOU'RE AN OUTSIDER,
...I KNEW JULIUS.
NOT THE JULIUS HERE,
BUT ANOTHER JULIUS FROM A DIFFERENT TIME AXIS.
BUT IN THE END, IT'S JUST MY OWN EGO.
COLDLY
TELL ME, ALICE. WHY?
SHIVER
I KNOW YOU GUYS.
BOTH JULIUS AND YOU.

THAT JULIUS WAS ALSO CURT AND UNSOCIAL,
BUT A KIND PERSON AT HEART.
HE WASN'T THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO WOULD DRIVE OUT A KID HE HAD BEEN TAKING CARE OF.
SO I COULDN'T HELP BEING CONCERNED.
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU USED ME TO GET CLOSER TO JULIUS?
THAT KINDA PISSES ME OFF.
JULIUS LIKES YOU, AND I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT BEING REPLACED SINCE THERE'S A CLEAR DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOUR POSITION IN JULIUS'S HEART AND MINE. SO I THOUGHT THAT I'D BE OKAY WITH THE IDEA OF YOU TWO TOGETHER.
BUT...
I DONNO WHY, BUT SEEING YOU GUYS TOGETHER JUST NOW IRRITATED ME FOR SOME REASON.
?
W-WAIT!
FROM WHAT YOU SAID,
DOES THAT MEAN THAT YOU LOVE JULIUS ROMANTICALLY?
FIRMLY
LIKE HELL I WOULD! DON'T SAY GROSS STUFF.
T-THEN...
I'M ABOUT TO SAY SOMETHING REALLY CONCEITED, SO IF I'M WRONG PLEASE PRETEND I NEVER SAID ANYTHING.

BLUSH
...!
DO YOU LOVE ...
...ME?
D-
DON'T CHANGE THE TOPIC!
WE WERE TALKING ABOUT HOW YOU HAD GOTTEN INVOLVED WITH US BECAUSE YOU LIKED JU-
I DID WANT TO GET CLOSER TO JULIUS, BUT NOT IN A ROMANTIC WAY!
IT'S NOT ONLY JULIUS, I WANTED TO GET CLOSER TO YOU TOO...
IN THE FIRST PLACE, YOU CAN'T EVEN REACH THE MUSEUM IF I'M NOT WITH YOU!
UM...
W-WAIT JUST A MINUTE.
I'LL STOP IF YOU HATE IT,
BUT I WANT TO-
SO I FELT LIKE I HAD TO GO WITH YOU...
AH, I'M SORRY.
THAT SOUNDED LIKE I WAS LOOKING DOWN ON YOU. I DIDN'T MEAN TO.
I WANTED TO BE TOGETHER WITH YOU- NO, THAT CAME OUT WRONG. I JUST WANTED TO...

I FEEL LIKE I'M BEING CONFESSED TO...
!
.....!
AH~~~~...
collapses
A-ANYWAY! THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT I DON'T LIKE JULIUS THAT WAY!
AS FOR THE REST...
SORRY, BUT CAN YOU GIVE ME SOME TIME TO CLEAR MY HEAD?
FOR NOW, I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU LET ME BE BY MYSELF FOR A BIT.
Ha~~~...
COME TO THINK OF IT,
I DIDN'T EVEN CONSIDER THE NOTION, BUT COULD IT BE THAT I...
I DIDN'T ACTUAL-LY MIND WHEN HE DID THAT.
NO WAY.
DON'T TELL ME THAT YOU PLAN TO CHOOSE A GUY LIKE THAT?

FLAP
PEEPING AGAIN?
THAT'S KIND OF DISTASTEFUL, DON'T YOU THINK?
IF WE'RE TALKING ABOUT BAD TASTE, YOU'RE IN THE SAME BOAT.
BUT YOU'RE STRONG.
SOMEDAY THE ACE HERE WOULD SURELY ALSO-
'SOMEDAY' WOULD BE TOO LATE.
I'D UNDERSTAND IF IT WERE JULIUS,
BUT TO THINK YOU WOULD PICK SUCH A SMALL, WEAK, POWERLESS CHILD...
THERE'S NO MEANING IN BECOMING STRONGER IF YOU HAVE ALREADY LOST WHAT IS PRECIOUS TO YOU.
Gasp
OH, COME TO THINK OF IT.
IT'S CONVENIENT TO HAVE TWO SUCH PRECIOUS PEOPLE.

ARE YOU TRYING TO BE THE BAD GUY?
inch backward
YEAH. HATRED CAN MAKE ONE STRONGER.
IF I DO THIS, HE MIGHT GROW TO BECOME STRONGER THAN ME.
HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROTECT JULIUS BETTER THAN ME.
KA-CHAK
HE MIGHT BE ABLE TO REACH A BETTER ANSWER, AND MAYBE EVEN TO KILL ME.
I DON'T THINK I'M FIT FOR THAT ROLE, THOUGH.
SLIP
WE WON'T KNOW THAT UNLESS WE TRY.
RAISE
I'M NOT GOING TO SAY
THAT I'M SORRY.

WHISH
stop
NAH.
KA-CHAK
WHA-?!
DON'T DO SUCH THINGS AS A JOKE!
NO, I WAS SERIOUS.
EH?
BUT I GUESS FOR NOW...
IT MAY BE WORTH-WHILE TO OBSERVE THE SITUA-TION A BIT LONGER.
.....?
COME ON, YOU SHOULD GET GOING.
BEFORE I CHANGE MY MIND.
TAP TAP TAP TAP

JULIUS.
YOU ARE A WORRYWART AS ALWAYS,
'JUST HAPPENED TO', HUH.
I JUST HAPPENED TO PASS BY.
I WAS TRYING TO TAKE A BREAK, BUT ENDED UP RUNNING INTO SOMETHING TROUBLE-SOME.
Ha Ha
YOU'RE SO OVER-PROTEC-TIVE.
OR MAYBE YOU CAME TO SEE ME?
DON'T BE STUPID.
I HAVE MY HANDS FULL WITH THESE KIDS AL-READY.
Gasp
Poke
JULIUS, DID YOUR EYES GET SO BAD THAT YOU HAVE TO WEAR THOSE EVEN WHEN YOU'RE NOT WORKING?

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT... WELL,
YEAH. I DON'T HAVE TIME TO SPEND ON THE LIKES OF YOU AFTER ALL THIS.
HAHA, GOTTA BE HARD ON YOU, NOW THAT EVEN THE OUTSIDER HAS JOINED YOUR LIST OF CHARGES.
I GUESS IT WON'T HURT IF IT'S ON THE LEVEL OF A SHORT BREAK.
I CAN AFFORD TO MAKE YOU SOME COFFEE AT LEAST.
OKAY.

I'M ALL WORN OUT. LET ME TAKE YOU UP ON THAT OFFER.
YOU'RE LATE!
HOW CAN YOU BE SLOWER THAN ME?
EEH?
EEEEH!?
IMPOS-SIBLE! ACE RETURNING BEFORE ME?!
WAIT,
THIS IS MY ROOM!
OH, THIS ROOM IS YOURS?
WHEN I SOMEHOW MANAGED TO REACH THE BUILDING I JUST GOT IN THROUGH THE CLOSEST ROUTE.
PLEASE USE THE DOOR!!
AND?
YOU AREN'T SOMEONE WHO'D GET LOST. WHAT ON EARTH TOOK YOU SO LONG?
.....
YOU JEAL-OUS?
I TOLD YOU TO STOP CHANGING THE TOPIC!
LIKE JULIUS, YOU'RE ALSO PHYSICALLY WEAK SO I WAS JUST WORRIED!
grin
he has his cute parts, too
IS HE BLUSHING?
EVEN ACE HAD SUCH A PERIOD, HUH.

I SEE. SO YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT ME.
THANK YOU.
kiss
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHAT WILL YOU DO IF JULIUS FINDS OUT AND BECOMES ANGRY AT US AGAIN?
I TOLD YOU. YOU PROBABLY JUST MISUNDERSTOOD OUR RELATIONSHIP.
AT LEAST I DON'T HAVE THAT TYPE OF FEELINGS FOR HIM. PLEASE DON'T IGNORE ME WHEN I SAY THAT.
IN THE FIRST PLACE, WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO INITIATED IT THE LAST TIME?
THAT WAS...I APOLOGIZED FOR IT, DIDN'T I?
I DON'T NEED AN APOLOGY.
turn
WHAT'S WITH YOU?
DON'T ACT SO COCKY JUST BECAUSE YOU LOOK A LITTLE OLDER THAN ME.
I WASN'T TRYING TO DO THAT.
OH, COME TO THINK OF IT...

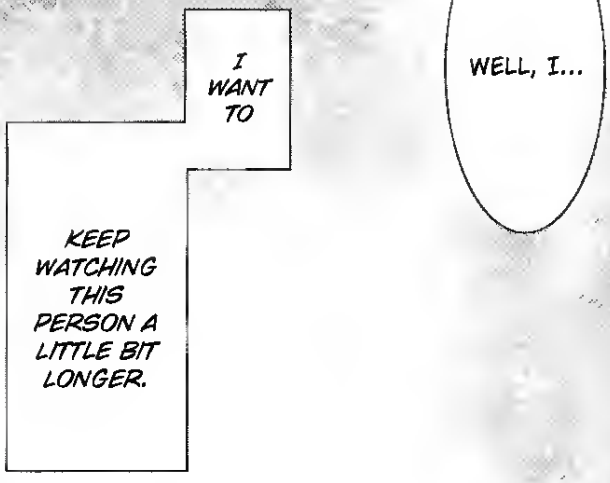
AH, I JUST...
!!!
chuckle
I HAVE HAD A LOVER BEFORE, SO FROM THAT VIEWPOINT I GUESS I AM MORE EXPERIENCED THAN YOU AFTER ALL?
BEFORE I KNEW IT...
THAT EXPERIENCE HAD BECOME SOMETHING I CAN LAUGHINGLY JOKE ABOUT.
AND WHO WOULD THAT BE?
JOLT
SOMEONE I KNOW?
I SEE.
AND HOW FAR DID YOU GO WITH HIM?
NO NO NO. IT'S A STORY OF MY FORMER WORLD. WE BROKE UP LONG AGO!
EH!?
UH, IT WAS NOTHING LIKE WHAT YOU'RE IMAGINING, I PROMISE!!
SHAKE
SHAKE
OOPS,I GOT TOO CARRIED AWAY ...!!
SHAKE
HMM~

grin
THEN IF I DO SOMETHING EVEN MORE HARDCORE TO YOU, I'D BE ABLE TO CATCH UP, RIGHT?
Experience point wise~
Eep!
NONONO, DON'T USE PEOPLE AS A STEPPING STONE FOR SUCH THINGS!
IN THE FIRST PLACE, YOU HAVEN'T SAID A WORD ABOUT LIKING ME OR ANYTHI-
DON'T BE SILLY. IT'S EXACTLY BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW IF I LIKE YOU OR NOT THAT WE SHOULD GIVE THIS A TRY.
NO NO NO
THIS GUY REALLY IS ACE!
HEY, WAI-
STO-
HMM?
WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT COMPOSURE FROM EARLIER?

YOU TOO! YOU WERE SO NERVOUS UNTIL JUST NOW, THE CHANGE IN CHARACTER IS TOO EXTREME!
THUMP
YEAH, BUT SOMEHOW I FEEL MORE COMFORT-ABLE THIS WAY.
HOW DO I EXPLAIN IT...
TO TELL THE TRUTH, YOU UNEXPECTEDLY GIVE OFF A KINDA MASOCHISTIC VIBE. IF I HAD TO PICK A SIDE, I'D WAGER THAT YOU'RE THE TYPE WHO LIKES BEING BULLIED.
SOMEHOW I FEEL THAT YOU'D ENJOY ME BEING A LITTLE BIT FORCEFUL-
NO, MAYBE HARD ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU ACHE?
HUH!?
Ahaha
MAYBE THIS IS ALSO A SHARED MEMORY FROM A ME FROM ANOTHER TIMELI-
STOP RECEIVING SUCH WACKY TELEPATHIC INFORMATION!
JUST KIDDING.

HEY, ACE...
I MAY BE WEAK NOW,
BUT I'LL BECOME STRONG.
CREAK
I'LL TREASURE THE THINGS THAT ARE PRECIOUS TO ME,
AND DEFINITELY PROTECT THEM NO MATTER WHAT.

IT'S NOT LIKE I SAID THAT THIS WAS ABOUT YOU.
IS THAT A CONFES-SION?
YOU MAY ALREADY HAVE AN IDEA OF WHAT LIES AHEAD,
BUT IF HE MAKES A DIFFERENT CHOICE, IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THE FUTURE THAT AWAITS HIM MIGHT END UP BEING DIFFERENT AS WELL.


I WANT TO
KEEP WATCHING THIS PERSON A LITTLE BIT LONGER.

WELL, I...

YOU MIGHT LAUGH AT ME FOR THIS, BUT...
ANYWAY, WHAT ABOUT YOU?
YOU ASKED FOR SOME TIME TO CLEAR YOUR HEAD, DID THAT GIVE YOU AN ANSWER?
ME?

· END ·

Story background notes:
Please read before proceeding!!

This oneshot was originally published in the booklet that comes with the normal edition of Daiya no Kuni no Alice ~Wonderful Mirror World~ otome game, and can be considered something like an 'extra ending' in Ace's route. For the people who don't know, in the Daiya no Kuni no Alice games Alice 'moves' to a new country from a different timeline, and ends up meeting alternate versions of many of her friends. In Ace route, she helps the Ace in the Country of Diamonds reconcile with the Julius in the Country of Diamonds and becomes close friends with both, but has a romantic relationship with the Ace she previously knows from the Country of Hearts. This is a new ending where she chooses the Diamond version of him instead.

Extra info: Heart Ace is kind of a vagabond wandering around, Alice and Daiya Ace live in the Castle of Diamonds territory, Julius lives at the Museum/Graveyard territory. Previously Daiya Ace used to live with Julius at the museum, but for special (spoilery) reasons Julius drove him out (he did it for the sake of Ace's future, but Ace has no clue). Ace desperately tried to come back many times but he either got lost or was rejected by Julius again. Alice finally mended their strained relationship by reassuring Ace that Julius didn't push him away because he hated him, and convinced Julius to stop forcibly acting cold towards Ace and to let Ace visit him. The following story takes place right after she accomplishes that feat.

Brought to you by
CF translations~!
Alice in Junk Box ~Dia~
Original Artist:
Fujimaru Mamenosuke
RAW PROVIDER: HARROE
CLEANER: IKARETA
TRANSLATION:
ILOVEVERGIL+IKARETA
TYPESETTER: IKARETA

藤丸豆ノ介

原作：QuinRose

アリス in Junk Box Dia（ダイヤ）

～藤丸豆ノ介アリスシリーズ短編集～

MISSY COMICS